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**RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.116
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE EXAMINING GROUP 1754**

Attorney's Docket No. 9448-24

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re: Leonard et al.

Serial No.: 10/029,424

Filed: December 20, 2001

For: *Method of Treating Hormonal Deficiencies in Women Undergoing Estrogen Replacement Therapy*

Group Art Unit: 1617

Examiner: Kim

Date: March 7, 2006

Mail Stop AF
Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL ACTION
PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. §1.116**

Sir:

This Amendment is responsive to the Final Official Action of September 7, 2005.

This Amendment is being filed with a three-month extension of time solely in order to file a continuation patent application claiming priority to the above-identified application. The continuation patent application is being filed concurrently and Applicants enclose herewith a copy of the continuation application transmittal form. Applicants are not submitting a reply to the above-noted Office Action and expect the above-identified application to go abandoned after the filing of the continuation patent application.

A check for \$1,020.00 for the petition fee required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(a)(1) is submitted herewith. The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fee, or credit any refund, to our Deposit Account No. 50-0220.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date of Deposit: March 7, 2006

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR § 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to: Mail Stop AF Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Betty Lou Rosser